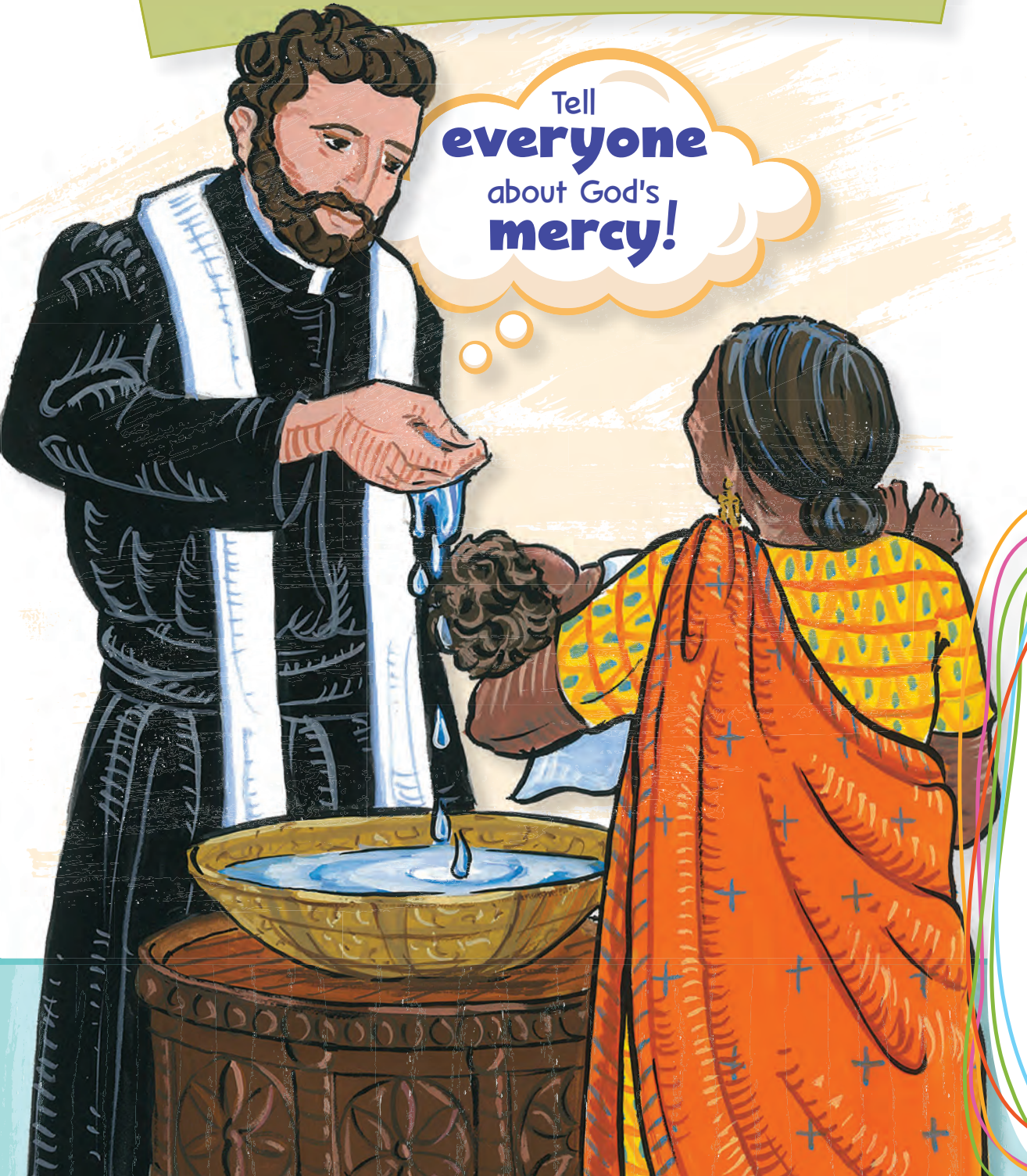


Saint Francis Xavier

(1506-1552)

Tell
everyone
about God's
mercy!





Francis Xavier was born to a well-to-do family in the Kingdom of Navarre (later taken over by Spain) and met Saint Ignatius Loyola when both were studying in Paris. With five other friends, they took religious vows and began the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). Francis was sent to spread the Catholic faith in India when the priest originally chosen for this mission fell ill. When he reached India, Francis began to minister to the sick. Then he reached out to the children as he walked through the streets, ringing a bell to announce his lessons about Jesus. Francis's missionary journeys later took him from India to Japan and Borneo. He was about to enter China when he died on a nearby island.

Francis Xavier is called "Apostle to the Indies" and "Apostle of Japan." Together with Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, he is honored as the patron saint of missionaries.



Prayer

Saint Francis Xavier, pray for me, that I may share my faith, hope, and love with others.

Choose a missionary society or other agency that serves people outside the United States. Write the name of this group here, and write a prayer asking Saint Francis Xavier to pray for the people they serve. If possible, send a donation to this group.

